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**St. Louis, MO 63108**

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OCT - 8 2001

To Carol Hanlon  
U.S. Department of Energy

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

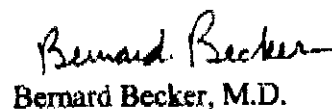
We are speaking out as individuals who are not representing any organization, but are greatly concerned about the disposal of nuclear waste. We do not have any special knowledge of this problem, but we find it very hard to justify the transporting of nuclear waste across the country, placing millions of people along the routes to Yucca Mountain at high risk. In addition, it is a place that is highly questionable as a permanent site, due to geological conditions.

We now have whole new threats to worry about. Deliberate attacks can occur through all kinds of insidious activities. Let us not put ourselves in the position of causing an accident that could be just as devastating, if not more so! This may sound naïve, but we cannot imagine that transporting and burying such dangerous products in a place that is clearly not risk-free is worth undertaking. If we left the nuclear waste where it is and destroy it safely, would that be unthinkable? If we really concentrated on other alternatives and invested in solar, wind, and other kinds of non-nuclear power, we should ultimately be able to find solutions that would eliminate entirely the need for nuclear energy production.

The Department of Energy has available many creative minds who can "think outside the box." Strategies can be developed which would make more sense, in our opinion.

Sincerely,

  
Janet Becker

  
Bernard Becker, M.D.